

The Use of Sikes Act Cooperative Agreements for Implementing INRMP Projects

**Presented to the Department of Defense
Conservation Conference INRMP
Workshop**

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INRMP Implementation is
required by law, but first you
need money.

\$



INRMP Implementation

- Methods

- ◆ Sikes Act Agreements

- ◆ Contracts

- ◆ Indefinite Quantities

- ◆ A&E

- ◆ Sole Source



Authorization

The Sikes Act Cooperative Agreement is authorized by the Sikes Act (16USC670a) to provide for the maintenance and improvements of natural resources

States that the Secretary of a military department may enter into a cooperative agreement with States, local governments, NGO's, and individuals on, or to benefit natural and historical research on Department of Defense Lands.



Authorization

DODINST 4715.3 (Environmental Conservation) delegates unto the respective military departments the authority to enter into Sikes Act cooperative agreements.

OPNAVINST 5090.1B (Environmental and Natural Resources Program Manual) further delegates its execution to the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Engineering Field Divisions (EFDs) and Engineering Field Activities (EFAs) level.

NAVFAC P-73 Authorizes the Navy Real Estate Contracting Officer to enter into these Sikes Act Cooperative Agreements.



The Sikes Act encourages entering into cooperative agreements with State, local and non-governmental organizations and individuals. This process allows the Government to access those individuals who specialize in specific fields that whose services historically could only be obtain through expensive A/E contracts.



Caveat

- The project should be reflected in the INRMP in order to use the Cooperative Agreement process.
- For this reason, it is important to conduct annual updates in the INRMP.

Why This Process?

- *Cost effective
- *Expedited timeline
- *Simplified process
- *Low risk/ High return value
- *Alternative to FAR acquisition process
- *Public relations bonanza
- *Utilization of experts in a particular field



Cautions

Universities can be slow for deliverables

Some Cooperators may treat funding as grants (free to use money as they see).

Cautions

- Lack of a FAR “hammer” (state in the agreement that a final 15% will be withheld until receipt of final product).
- Schedules tend to slip.

Since 1998, NAVFAC Washington has completed 114 Natural resource projects directly related to the INRMP. The projects were implemented either by a cooperative agreement or through facilities services contracts. 16.78 million dollars has been obligated to these projects with 10.282 million for shoreline stabilization.



It is estimated that approximately 4.1 million dollars has been saved by using the cooperative agreements for shoreline work by reducing the requirement to pay high overhead (6% vs. 124%).



Typical Cooperators

State Agencies (Universities, Soil Conservation Districts, Forestry and Wildlife divisions)

NGO's (Resource Conservation and Development Boards, The Nature Conservancy, ect...)

Individuals. Those who possess specific knowledge and/or skills relevant to your project.



Examples of Surveys Conducted using Sikes Act agreements

Universities

Dwarf-Wedge Mussel

Small whorled pegonia

Bob-white quail

Feeding habitats of coyotes

**Population and distribution
of river otters**

Individuals

**Threatened and endangered species
surveys**



State Agency/NGO projects

Shoreline stabilization

NDW Washington, NAS Patuxent River, NAS Patuxent River, Webster Field Annex, NSWC Indian Head and US Naval Academy

Erosion Control Projects

NAS Patuxent River, NRL Chesapeake Bay

Wildlife Improvement projects

Fish passage, invasive species control, controlled burns, wildlife over looks, heron rookery platforms, stream enhancement and cat pamphlets.



Final Shoreline Products

Saved over \$4.1 million dollars in construction costs

13,500 feet of shoreline stabilized (protection of shore facilities and infrastructure)

Great public relations

1.77 acres of spartina alterniflora

6.01 acres of spartina patens

2.58 acres of beach created

65,000 submerged aquatic plants planted

30k yards oyster reef created

Documentation and protection of dozens of historical and pre-historical locations.



Thanks To:

NAVFAC Washington

Naval Air Station Patuxent River

Naval District Washington, Solomons Complex

Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head

Calvert County Soil Conservation District

Saint Mary's County Soil Conservation District

Charles County Conservation District

Southern Maryland Resource Conservation and Development Board

Anne Arundel Soil and Water Conservation District

Coastal Engineering and Construction

Coastal Design

Maryland DNR

Alliance for Chesapeake Bay

National Aquarium in Baltimore

NOAA

Maryland Conservation Corps

Oyster Recovery.Org

